GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4352
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
CARRYING OF PETS IN TRAINS
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities to take pets alongwith the passengers in the same train is available in the railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith clear cut rules in this regard; and

(c) the steps the Government proposes to take to transport pets with a human touch and easy access of the owner during travel for passengers other than First AC and First Class, especially in long distance trains such as Tamil Nadu, GT and Rajdhani Expresses?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (c) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4352 BY DR. K. DHANARAJU TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 21.4.2005 REGARDING CARRYING OF PETS IN TRAINS.

(a) to (c): As per extant rules, a pet dog can be carried in dog box in Second Class Luggage and Brake Van (SLR). Dog is also permitted to be carried with the passenger in AC First Class and First Class Compartments only provided that the whole coupe (2 berther or 4 berther) is booked by the passenger or the group of passengers for his/their exclusive use. Dog carried in dog box is charged at parcel rates applicable to the train at 30 kgs per pet dog. Pet dogs can also be carried in AC first class and First Class at parcel rate for 60 kgs per dog. Dogs are not allowed to be carried in AC 2 tier, AC 3 tier, AC Chair Car, Sleeper Class and Second Class Compartments. The facility for booking of a dog in AC First Class and First Class and Dog Boxes provided in SLRs can be availed in all Mail/Express and in AC First Class in Rajdhani Trains. Both First Class and AC First Class have separate cabins/coupes so that carriage of pets does not cause inconvenience to co-passengers. In Shatabadi trains, booking of dogs is not permitted as these trains do not have AC First Class and First Class compartments. Booking of dogs in dog boxes is not permitted in Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains as they do not have dog boxes. In other trains one dog box is provided and only one dog is booked per train on first-come-first served basis There is no provision of advance booking of dogs. They are booked at the counter, one hour before departure of the train. Dogs are locked in the dog boxes in the presence of the owner who is responsible for feeding of the dog enroute. Special Vehicle (Horse Boxes) can also be provided in case of number of dogs being more then one and upto 36 in the case of dogs being of large size.

In addition to above, as per extant rules, Puppies, Cats, Kittens, Mongooses, Ferrets, Rabbits, Monkeys, Guinea-pigs and other small animals and small birds (other than poultry) are also permitted to be carried in brake-van at parcel rates applicable to train service and in passenger carriage at owner`s risk with the permission of the Station Master at the starting station and with the consent of fellow passengers.

At present the Government has no proposal for carrying pets in classes other than First AC and First Class coaches or to provide for dog kennels in each bogie as possibility of transport of pets with human touch and easy access of the owner during travel in coaches other than First AC and First Class is negligible.